**Performing *Eruv Tavshilin***

In general, the prohibitions that apply to Shabbat apply to *yamim tovim* as well (therefore, on Rosh Hashanah, Shavuot, and the first and last days of Pesah and Sukkot, writing, working, building, etc. are all prohibited just like on Shabbat). However, the one exception is that one is allowed to cook on *yamim tovim* but only to prepare food for that particular day.  This law means that while leftovers are not prohibited should they occur, one should not be cooking with the intent to have food left over for another day.  On Shabbat, however, cooking is prohibited entirely.  Therefore, preparing food for a Shabbat that follows a holiday—as we have this week, with the end of Passover rolling into Shabbat—presents a difficulty.   The rabbis resolved this difficulty through the use of a ritual called *eruv tavshilin,* the combining, *eruv*, of the cooking for the holiday and Shabbat.

In order to do this ritual, when cooking on Thursday for the holiday, take two foods—traditionally a baked food (like *matzah* or a Passover cake) and a cooked food (like a hard-boiled egg, cooked chicken or fish), hold them, and recite the following blessing:

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם אשר קדשנו במצותיו וצונו על מצות ערוב.

*Barukh Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melekh Ha'olam asher kiddeshanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu al mitzvat eruv* .

Follow this by saying, "By means of this combining, we are permitted to bake, cook, warm, kindle lights, and make all the necessary preparations for Shabbat during the festival, us and all who live in this city."

Finally, set the two foods aside to be eaten on Shabbat (and not on Friday).  This allows us to make sure we have warm, delicious food with which to celebrate Shabbat as well as the end of Passover.

Wishing everyone a *Hag Sameah* and I hope to see you over the next few days!